

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/690,455

Examiner

Leonid Shapiro

Applicant(s)

YOSHIHARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 03/30/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5,13,14,18,21 and 33-35.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance ✓ |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 5, 13-14, 18, 21, 33-35, are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention relates to an improved vehicle-mounted apparatus and the method of controlling the same. More specifically, the present invention relates an improvement in operability of the vehicle-mounted apparatus. Independent claims 5 and 13-14 identified the uniquely distinct feature: ” rotatable feature comprises: an axis of rotation rotating relative to the upside down rotation of said second display; a first gear provided on said axis of rotation; a button provided on a surface of said second panel opposite from said second display; a second gear provided on said button and a slide plate with a rack for rotating said second gear according to the relative rotation of said first gear.” as recited in claim 5, Lines 7-15, claim 13, Lines 8-14 and claim 14, Lines 11-16. The closest art, Satoru et al., Shigemura and Sakai et al. as discussed in the Office Action on 11.30.04 disclose related display, either singularly or in combination fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitation obvious.

Claims 18 and 21 depend on claim 5.

Relative to claim 33 the major difference between the teaching of the prior art of record (Satoru et al., Shigemura and Sakai et al.) and the instant invention is that second panel is rotatable when second panel is positioned in other than a closed position, and second display is exposed when second panel is then positioned into closed position.

Relative to claims 34-35 the major difference between the teaching of the prior art of record (Satoru et al., Shigemura and Sakai et al.) and the instant invention in that the said prior

art does not teach second panel has a size that allows a portion of first display to remain visible when second panel is closed relative to the first panel and can be activated when second panel is closed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Telephone inquire

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonid Shapiro whose telephone number is 571-272-7683. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m. to 5 p.m..

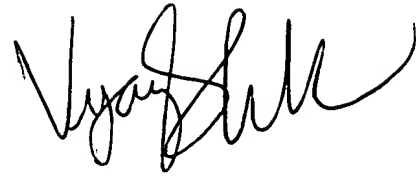
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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05.26.05



VIJAY SHANKAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER

